Ellen M. Buettner | Chief Executive Officer

J. Kevin Stitt | Governor

OHCA 2025-09

March 3, 2025

RE: Aetna Better Health of Oklahoma's Implementation of PA Requirements for Specific Codes

Dear Provider,

The SoonerSelect contracted entities (CEs) are required to administer medically necessary, covered services in a manner that is no more restrictive than what is required by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) in the SoonerCare fee-for-service program (see O.A.C. 317:55-3-10). CEs may request to implement alternative processes for administration of medically necessary, covered services under the SoonerSelect program. The alternatives requested are subject to OHCA review and approval.

Aetna Better Health of Oklahoma recently requested to implement prior authorization requirements for specific cardioversion and surgical procedures, durable medical equipment (DME) and nerve injection codes. Aetna Better Health selected these codes after reviewing paid claims from April 2024 to June 2024 and utilizing average denial rates from Aetna Better Health Medicaid plans in other markets. Procedure codes with denial rates <20% and annualized savings opportunities of <\$2,000 were excluded. The proposed changes attempt to manage the utilization of specific codes and achieve overall cost savings for ABHOK and its members.

OHCA subject matter experts (SMEs) reviewed ABHOK's proposed revisions and assessed the appropriateness of the proposed practices. Complete details of the proposed changes including OHCA decisions can be found as an attachment to this letter. OHCA decisions will be presented during the OHCA's Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) March 6, 2025, meeting.

The approved changes are effective for Aetna Better Health of Oklahoma members for dates of service on or after **April 1, 2025.**

If you have any questions or comments about the implementation of this request to change service provisions, please contact Aetna Better Health of Oklahoma at 844-365-4385 or online at AetnaBetterHealth.com/oklahoma/providers.

Thank you for your continued service to Oklahoma's SoonerCare and SoonerSelect members.

Sincerely,

Melody Anthony Interim State Medicaid Director

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